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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/875,363	06/05/2001	Rory A.J. Curtis	10448-060001 / MPI2000-25	7451
26161	7590	10/03/2003	EXAMINER	
FISH & RICHARDSON PC 225 FRANKLIN ST BOSTON, MA 02110			BASI, NIRMAL SINGH	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1646	

DATE MAILED: 10/03/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/875,363

Applicant(s)

CURTIS, RORY A.J.

Examiner

Michael Brannock

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 December 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-7 and 12, drawn to isolated nucleic acid molecules, host cells, and methods of recombinantly producing the encoded polypeptide, classified in class 536, subclass 23.1, for example.
- II. Claims 8-10, drawn to polypeptides, classified in class 530, subclass 350, for example.
- III. Claim 11, drawn to an antibody, classified in class 530, subclass 387.1.
- IV. Claims 13-15, drawn to methods of detecting the presence of a polypeptide and a kit for use in the methods, classified in class 436, subclass 7.1.
- V. Claim 16-18, drawn to a method for detecting the presence of a nucleic acid and a kit for use in the method, classified in class 435, subclass 6.
- VI. Claim 19, drawn to a method for identifying a compound that binds a polypeptide, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1.
- VII. Claim 20, drawn to a method of modulating the activity of a polypeptide, classification dependent upon the structure of the recited compound.
- VIII. Claims 21-24, drawn to a method of inhibiting the abnormal transport of ions across a biological membrane comprising contacting a cell with a polypeptide modulator, classification dependent upon structure of recited compound.

- IX. Claims 25-28, drawn to method of inhibiting abnormal transport of ions across a biological membrane comprising administering a nucleic acid modulator, classification dependent upon structure of recited compound.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Although there are no provisions under the section for "Relationship of Inventions" in M.P.E.P. § 806.05 for inventive groups that are directed to different products, restriction is deemed to be proper because these products constitute patentably distinct inventions for the following reasons. Groups I-III are directed to products that are distinct both physically and functionally, are not required one for the other, and are therefore patentably distinct. Further, the protein of Group II can be prepared by processes which are materially different from recombinant DNA expression of Group I, such as by chemical synthesis, or by isolation and purification from natural sources. Additionally, the DNA of Group I can be used other than to make the protein of Group II, such in gene therapy or as a probe in nucleic acid hybridization assays. The protein of Group II can be used in materially different methods other than to make the antibody of Group III, such as in therapeutic or diagnostic methods (e.g., in screening). Finally, although the antibody of Group III can be used to obtain the DNA of Group I, it can also be used in materially different methods, such as in various diagnostic (e.g., as a probe in immunoassays or immunochromatography), or therapeutic methods.

Similarly although there are no provisions under the section for "Relationship of Inventions" in M.P.E.P. § 806.05 for inventive groups that are directed to different methods, restriction is deemed to be proper because these methods appear to

constitute patentably distinct inventions for the following reasons: Groups IV-IX are directed to methods that are distinct both physically and functionally, and are not required one for the other. Invention IV requires detection of a polypeptide, which is not required by any of the other groups. Invention V requires detection of a nucleic acid, which is not required by any of the other groups. Invention VI requires identification of a polypeptide's binding partners, which is not required by any of the other groups. Invention VII requires polypeptide modulation, which is not required by any of the other groups. Invention VIII requires modulation of ion transport via modulation of a polypeptide, which is not required by any of the other groups. Invention IX requires modulation of ion transport via modulation of nucleic acids (e.g., gene therapy), which is not required by any of the other groups. Therefore, a search and examination of all of the methods in one patent application would result in an undue burden, since the searches for the methods are not co-extensive, the classification is different, and the subject matter is divergent.

Inventions I and each of V and IX are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the nucleic acids can be used to make protein recombinantly in vitro.

Inventions II and each of IV, VI, VII and VIII are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be

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shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the polypeptides can be used to generate antibodies or label their binding partners.

Each of the remaining Invention pairs are products and methods. however, they are independent and distinct because the methods do not require use of the products.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, separate search requirements, and different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

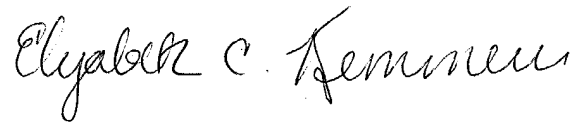
Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Brannock whose telephone number is (703) 306-5876.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Yvonne L. Eyler, Ph.D. can be reached on (703) 308-6564. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.



ELIZABETH KEMMERER
PRIMARY EXAMINER

ECK